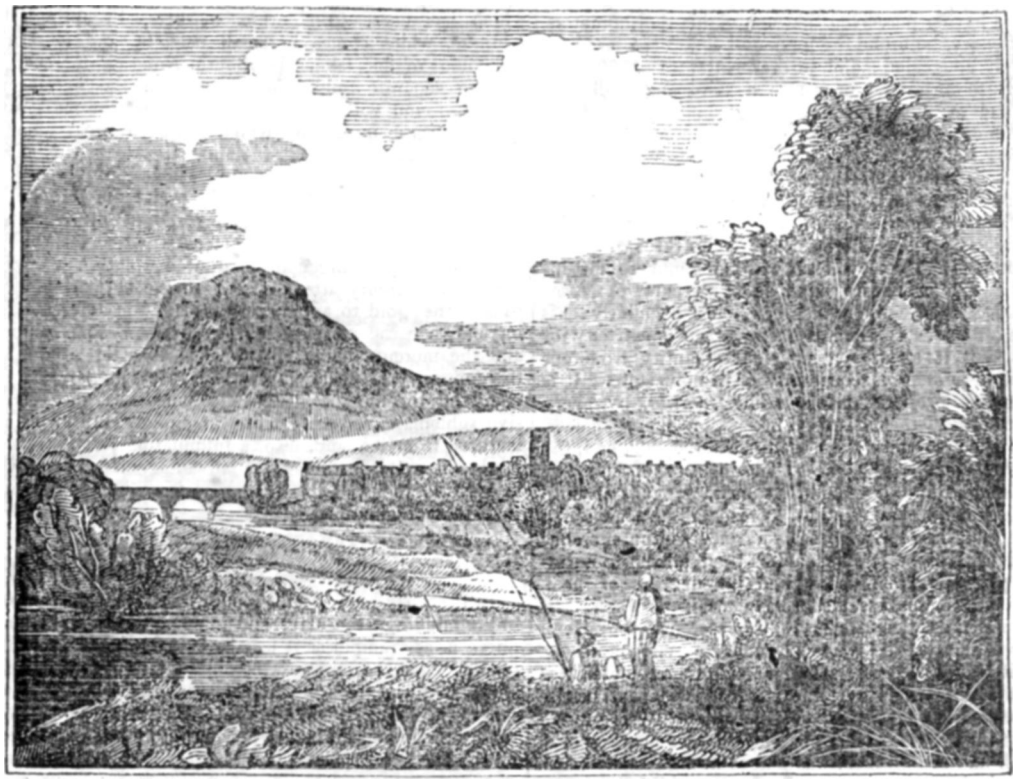
the memory of Elias Sh e, brother of Sir Richard. He died in 1613, as appears by the following inscription :—

HELIÆ SHEE ARMIGERO MULTIS NATURÆ DOTIBUS AC MULTIPLICIS DOCTRINÆ ORNAMENTIS CONSPICUO CONIVGI SUAVISSIMO CHARISSINA UXOR MARGARETA ARCHER MÆSTA POSUIT OBIIT DIE 27 JULII, A. D. 1613.

The tomb is also covered with curious inscriptions in Latin verse, some of which have been preserved by Ledwich. He seems not to have been unworthy of some of the eulogiums recorded in his epitaph, for Holingshed speaks thus of him in his chronicles—"Elias Sheth, borne in Kilkenny, sometime scholer of Oxford, a gentleman of a passing good wit, a pleasant conceited companion, full of mirth without gall. He wrote in English divers sonnets."

The present Sir George Shee, Bart. and Sir Martin Archer Shee, President of the Royal Academy, claim to be descended from this Elias Shee.

Thomas Shee, of Freinstown, Sir Richard Shee's second son, left no issue ; but the estates of his grandson, Richard Shee, of Sheestown, son of Sir Richard Shee's third son, Marcus Shee, the fee of which was, by Sir Richard Shee's will, reserved to the descendants of his eldest son, Lucas Shee, were forfeited in the year 1641, and subsequently restored by the Court of Claims. John Power O'Shee, of Gardenmorres, in the County of Waterford, and of Sheestown, in the County of Kilkenny, is the descendant and representative of this branch of the family. The late Field Marshal Clarke, Duc de Feltre, was maternally descended from a younger son of Marcus Shee, of Sheestown, (Sir Richard Shee's third son,) his mother being the sister of Henry Shee, of Landrecies, the Prefect of Paris, who was advanced to the peerage by Louis XVIII.



VILLAGE OF CUSHENDALL

The neat little village of Cushendall is situated on the Antrim coast, on the route from Belfast to the Giant's Causeway by Carrickfergus, between Glenarm and Ballycastle. It is supposed to take its name from Dallas, a predatory Scot, who is said to have fallen by the hand of Ossian. In its immediate vicinity, in a very prominent situation, stands a handsome school-house, built some time since by Mr. Turnley. On the site of the school-house may be traced the remains of a very extensive fortification, called Court Mac-Martin ; and on the shore are several remarkable caverns, at one time the residence of a number of smugglers and pirates The square tower, in the centre of the village, is a little prison, erected also by Mr. Turnley, for the punishment and safe keeping of offenders.

In proceeding to Ballycastle, by the little village of Cushendun, three miles distant, very pleasing and, in many instances, much romantic scenery is presented to the view ;—the very handsome hill of Largeidan, with its limestone base, and flat basaltic summit, 1100 feet high, clothed with the finest verdure—the lofty Tievebuelli, rising 1,255 feet, and capped with a deep covering of basalt—and the still loftier and yet more majestic Trostan, in the distance, rising to the height of 1,600 feet.

By many this is supposed to be the real country of Ossian—not long since his grave was pointed out near the shore, by persons resident in the neighbourhood—several of his poems having been handed down orally from father to son, and still repeated with great correctness by some of the old persons in the neighbourhood.

SIMPLE SCIENCE—MERCURY.

Mercury or quicksilver is, for the most part, brought from the East Indies and Peru ; but is also found, in great abundance, in Almaden in Spain, where it is extracted from the ore by distillation. In this latter place it has been raised in such quantities, that, in the year 1717, there remained above 1700 tons of it in the magazine, after the necessary quantity had been exported to Peru, for the use of the gold and silver mines there. The mine of Guanca Velica, in Peru, is 1020 feet in circumferance, and 2880 deep. In this profound abyss are seen streets, squares, and a chapel, where religious mysteries, on all festivals, are celebrated. Thousands of flambeaux are continually burning to enlighten it. The mine generally affects those who work in it with convulsions, yet the unfortunate victims of an insatiable avarice are plunged *naked* into these abysses. Tyranny has invented this refinement in cruelty to render it impossible for any

thing to escape its restless vigilance. Quicksilver is also found, in considerable quantity, at Idria, a town in the circle of Lower Austria; the mines there have been wrought constantly for 300 years, and are thought, on an average, to yield 100 tons annually. It is likewise found in Hungary and China, and is seen in globules in some earths and stones in America, and collected from the clefts of rocks there.

Mercury is generally found in ore, the most valuable of which is called *native amalgam*, and contains 64 parts of mercury and 36 of silver. It is a white fluid metal, having the appearance and brilliancy of melted silver, and, in this state, has neither taste or smell, and is extremely divisible. Excepting platinum and gold, it is the heaviest metal, being 13½ times heavier than water. We see mercury always in a *fluid* state, because it is so very fusible, that a small proportion of heat is able to keep it in a state of fluidity. It was formerly imagined that the liquid state was essential to it, but Professor Braun being engaged in experiments on the power of freezing mixtures, and having perceived that one of his thermometers was stationary, he broke the bulb, and found the mercury completely congealed; and, in the winter of 1799, Mr. Pepys froze 56 pounds of it into a solid and malleable mass; and at Hudson's Bay frozen mercury has been lately reduced to sheets almost as thin as common paper, by beating it upon an anvil that had been previously reduced to the same temperature.

It is one of the laws of nature, that all bodies expand as they acquire heat; and this may be readily proved by fitting tightly a piece of iron wire to slip through a ring, and making it red hot, when it will be found so far increased in size as not to enter it. Mercury possesses this quality, in an eminent degree, being peculiarly susceptible of heat, for which it has so great a capacity or affinity, that it absorbs a sufficient quantity from our atmosphere to keep it constantly in a fluid state. It is owing to this property of expanding *readily*, by every addition of heat, that it is used in making thermometers. After procuring a glass tube, with a bulb at one end, the thermometer maker puts the usual quantity of mercury into it, and, by applying sufficient heat, expands it until it fills the tube, forcing out, as it rose, all the air; the tube is then hermetically sealed, and, as the mercury cools, it proportionally sinks, and is then affixed to a graduated plate, on which is marked the degrees of heat, which any medium is said to have attained, when it is able to impart sufficient heat to the mercury to raise it level with that degree. For instance, to tell the heat of water, it is only necessary to keep the thermometer in it a few moments, when the quicksilver will expand or rise in proportion to the warmth of the water. As a proof of the rapidity with which mercury absorbs heat, some of it, which had been frozen, was placed in a glass of warm water; it immediately became liquid, while the water was as immediately frozen, and, by the rapidity of the action, the glass was shivered into a thousand pieces. It will also give up the heat it contains with considerable quickness.

It is enough to excite our admiration, at the wisdom of the Almighty Maker of the universe, that all bodies do not receive or yield up their heat as readily as mercury, when we consider, that did not the earth hold it with greater tenacity, in many parts, where the cold is often 50 degrees below the freezing point, the various families of vegetables, for the preservation of which heat is essentially necessary, would perish. But nature has not only provided the earth with this affinity and tenacity for heat, but has ordained it so, that whenever the atmosphere is reduced to 32 degrees, the water it holds in solution becomes frozen, and is precipitated in the form of snow—thus covering the earth, as with a carpet, through which the colder air cannot attract a large quantity of that heat which it is so necessary for it to retain. Some of the earths are so very slow conductors of heat, that the red hot balls, employed by the garrison of Gibralter to destroy the Spanish floating batteries, were carried from the furnaces to the bastions in *wooden* barrows, with only a layer of *sand* interposed, and this was found sufficient to prevent the balls setting fire to the wood.

Quicksilver is so extremely divisible, that it may be strained through the pores of leather by moderate pressure, and thus freed from dust and other impurities. Dr. Paris, however, states, that it is sometimes adulterated by an alloy of lead and bismuth; and that, when so adulterated, the method above will not purify it, for although the alloy should exceed one-fourth of the entire bulk, it will pass with the mercury through the leather.

A singular paradox has been pointed out by Mr Chenevix, in the amalgamation of mercury with platinum—for although mercury is 13½ times, and platinum 21 times, heavier than water, yet the mixture will be only 11½ times as heavy.

Several of the uses of mercury were known to the ancients. Theophrastus, a Greek philosopher, who wrote about 300 years before Christ, was acquainted with it, and knew how to treat it, so as to form vermillion; which beautiful scarlet pigment is a composition of sulphur and mercury. Europe has, hitherto, been furnished with it, by the Dutch manufacturers, of greater beauty than any which has come from other markets, excepting the Chinese, which comes in small packets, and is nearly the colour of fine lake. In South America mercury is used to separate gold and silver from the extraneous matters found with them. By triturating the mass with mercury, these metals, for which it has a great affinity, become amalgamated with it; and, afterwards, this amalgam is submitted to heat, by which the mercury is evaporated, leaving the precious metals in a state of purity. It is used also in gilding copper watch-cases, buttons, &c. which are first cleaned with weak aqua fortis, and then plunged in a diluted solution of mercury—the mercury attaches itself to the copper, and this causes the gold to adhere, because of the affinity existing between the mercury and it; heat is then applied, and the mercury being volatilized, leaves the gold upon the copper. Mercury is used in the preparation of many of the most valuable medicines—calomel, corrosive sublemate, red and white precipitate, are all manufactured from it; and, also, a fulminating powder, which might, in some instances, be advantageously employed in blasting rocks, as its immediate force is much greater than that of gunpowder. E. B.

COMPLAINTS OF OCTOBER.

In the early part of this month, it is sufficiently warm in the middle of the day, and in some years the atmosphere is as tranquil as it usually is in the month of September: but the rain now begins to fall, the equinoctial winds strip the trees of their foliage, and join the rainy season in giving the last blow to the heats of summer the evenings and mornings become more chill, and therefore it must be expected that diseases will become numerous and severe

In October inflammatory diseases, and particularly those which affect the chest, increase greatly in number and variety of appearance. Fevers also begin now to shew themselves, although it is perhaps not until November, that the bad forms of fever appear in any great number.

Rheumatism indeed is occasionally met with, but the class of diseases which more particularly prevails in October, is inflammation of the respiratory organs in some of the numerous varieties of disorders of the chest.

But here again we may see how great a difference variation of circumstances makes in the same disease. The chest diseases of spring are totally different from those which occur in autumn; nay, indeed, they would seem to be diseases really of a different part. In spring pleurisy, and under that name must be comprehended all those pains in the side and stitches which occur at that season, abounds, whilst the coughs are all dry and hard, and the the attendant fever violent in a degree. In the chest complaints of autumn, on the contrary, pleurisy does not often appear; pains in the side are very seldom complained of, the coughs are hoarse and barking, they are usually attended at an earlier period of the disease by a copious, and in the latter periods, a sticky expectoration, and the attendant fever does not bear the use of the lan-